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Students in Zanzibar read books together.

Photo: Manifester Brand for USAID

TANZANIA

TUSOME PAMOJA

The USAID Tusome Pamoja activity aims to improve the quality of early grade basic skills instruction, strengthen skills delivery systems, and increase engagement of parents and communities in education. The activity operates in five focus regions to target more than 1.4 million students in grades one through four, as well as 26,000 teachers.

In spite of progress advancing equity and access to education in Tanzania, basic reading and math skills remain a daily struggle for thousands of students. With this in mind, USAID *Tusome Pamoja* is a 5-year Activity supporting the improvement of lifelong learning skills, defined as the mastery of early grade reading, writing, and arithmetic (3Rs). Working with the Ministry of Education, Science and Technology (MOEST) on the mainland, the President's Office for Regional Administration and Local Government (PORALG), the Zanzibar Ministry of Education and Vocational Training (MOEVT), and regional secretariats, *Tusome Pamoja* works to target students and teachers.

The activity has three main objectives:

- 1. Improving the Quality of Early Grade Basic Skills Instruction** by building upon existing knowledge and developing new teaching and learning materials for students in preprimary education and grades one to four in primary. *Tusome Pamoja* also works to build knowledge and skills for teachers and school leaders, in addition to establishing school-based communities of learning.
- 2. Strengthening Skills Delivery Systems**, with an emphasis on performance management for education system administrators, including mentoring, monitoring, evaluation analysis, and research.
- 3. Increasing Engagement of Parents and Communities in Education**, thereby strengthening their participation in school governance, school management, and their children's learning.

RESULTS

- All grade one and two pupils in the five *Tusome Pamoja* target regions have received new learning materials: approximately one million supplementary and decodable readers have been distributed.
- All grade one and two teachers in the five *Tusome Pamoja* regions (over 12,000 in total) have received training on evidence-based early grade reading instruction, improving their knowledge and skills as educators.
- *Tusome Pamoja* will continue to identify and build on existing initiatives in the areas of reading, writing, and arithmetic to further develop cost-effective interventions that can be reproduced and expanded to benefit the country as a whole.

BUDGET \$67 million

DURATION

January 2016 – January 2021

ACTIVITY LOCATIONS

- Zanzibar (Pemba and Unguja)
- Mtwara
- Morogoro
- Ruvuma
- Iringa

IMPLEMENTER

RTI International

PARTNERS

Room to Read
Plan International
Miske Witt & Associates

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